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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Challberg et al.

Art Unit: 3641

Serial No.: 09/597,113

Examiner: J. Keith

Filed: June 20, 2000

For: CORE CONFIGURATION FOR A
NUCLEAR REACTOR

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Office Action, made final, dated May 2, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (twice amended) A core for a nuclear reactor comprising:

a plurality of fuel bundles; and

a plurality of large control rods, each said control rod comprising four control rod blades extending radially from a central portion and arranged at right angles to each other, said blades defining four fuel bundle receiving channels, said control rods arranged in a plurality of staggered rows with only four fuel bundles in each said receiving channel and two sides of each of said four fuel bundles adjacent a control rod blade.

10. (twice amended) A nuclear reactor core configuration, said core comprising a plurality of fuel bundles and a plurality of large control rods, each said control rod comprising four control rod blades extending radially from a central portion and arranged at right angles to